

Bicycle painting on cover by Taliah Lempert www.bicyclepaintings.com



City of Sunnyvale P.O. Box 3707 Sunnyvale, CA 94088

## Route Selection

Bike Lanes – Bike lanes are portions of streets reserved for the exclusive use of bicycles. They are designated by a line marked on the pavement and by a sign which limits the use to bicycles.

**Bike Paths** – Bike Paths are paved pathways used for non-motorized travel and are physically separated from streets.

Signed On-Street Routes – Signed on-street routes are routes that have signs indicating that bicyclists will be using the roadway. In

some cases, these routes will have a wider outside lane or shoulder.

Routes – Bicyclists are permitted to ride on all streets in the City of Sunnyvale except Highways 101, 237 and 85. In order to aid in route selection, all major streets in Sunnyvale have been rated to indicate the level of competence recommended for safe bicycle travel.

- Beginner Indicates a street with low traffic volumes and speeds. These streets are suited for use by individuals with limited competency in cycling ability and some knowledge of safety rules and the rights and responsibly of cyclists and motorists.
- Intermediate Indicates a street with moderate speeds and traffic volume. Bicyclists must share the road with vehicles; however there is typically enough room for this to be accommodated comfortably. It is suited for individuals knowledgeable of the safety rules and responsibilities of the road and who have a basic level of cycling competency.
- Advanced Indicates a street with high speeds and traffic volume. Bicyclists must share the road with vehicles. On these routes, this is typically not accommodated comfortably based on the width of the outside lane and presence of parked vehicles. These routes are suited for individuals who are capable of riding on major roadways, and in high traffic volume with very little difficulty, and are informed and knowledgeable of all safety rules and responsibilities of the road.



#### SUNNYVALE BICYCLE MAP

The Sunnyvale Bicycle Map was developed to encourage more people to bicycle by identifying a network of the best streets and paths for bicycling; to educate bicyclists about their rights and responsibilities as roadway users; to inform bicyclists about access to public transit; and to recognize bicycling as a legitimate mode of transportation.

S U N N Y V A L E F A C T S

Location Sunnyvale is located at the southwest end

of the San Francisco Bay. **Population** 131,700

Land Area 24 square miles

Days of Sunshine 310 days

Miles of Streets 298 miles

Bike Facilities 79 miles of bike lanes 8 miles of trails

All roadways in Sunnyvale are accessible to bikes except Highways 101, 280, 85 and 237.

Transit and Rail Facilities – VTA Bus and Light Rail, Sunnyvale Caltrain Station, Lawrence Caltrain Station.

City Website www.sunnyvale.ca.gov



#### **Sunnyvale Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee**

The Sunnyvale Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) is a group of Sunnyvale residents appointed by the City Council to recommend bicycle and pedestrian project priorities and priorities for implementation of Sunnyvale's Bicycle Program. The BPAC works closely with the Department of Public Works and other City Departments in the formulation of enhanced education and bicycle safety programs.

The seven member advisory committee meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the West Conference Room, City Hall, 456 West Olive Avenue. The meetings are open to the public.

#### **Bicycle Organizations/Resources**

**511 Bay Area Travel Guide** http://bicycling.511.org

Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition www.svbcbikes.ora

Bay Area Bicycle Coalition

www.bayareabikes.org 415-246-8078

408-867-9797

California Bicycle Coalition www.calbike.org

916-446-7558

League of American Bicyclists www.bikeleague.org

202-822-1333 Sunnyvale Bicycle and

Pedestrian Advisory Committee

www.sunnyvale.ca.gov 408-730-7415

Valley Transportation Authority Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

www.vta.org 408-321-5680



Bicyclists boarding the Caltain at Sunnyvale Station

# Road Hazard Reporting

If you encounter a problem with the traffic signals or roadways within the City of Sunnyvale contact the Division of Transportation and Traffic at (408)730-7415 or bpac@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us.

To report a road hazard on El Camino Real, contact Caltrans at

To report a road hazard on Central Expressway or Lawrence Expressway, contact Santa Clara County at 408-686-0605 or roads@countyroads.org.

# The Bike/Transit Connection

Cycling is great for short distances. When combined with transit, the entire Bay Area is accessible.

Bicycles can be accommodated on all major forms of public transportation in Bay Area. Exceptions are the San Francisco Muni Metro, historic streetcars and cable cars.

Caltrain – Bicycles are welcome on all trains at all times -- as long as there is space. The number of bicycles is limited to 32 per gallery car train and 16 per Bombardier car (Baby Bullet) train. The northern-most car is designated as the "bike" car. Look for the black bike on yellow sticker which designates the proper car. Call 800-660-4287 for helpful destination tags for your bike.

VTA Buses – VTA has equipped all buses with exterior bike racks that can accommodate up to two bicycles. When the rack is filled, up to two bicycles will be allowed inside the bus subject to the driver's discretion and when passenger loads are light. The buses on the Highway 17 Express and the Dumbarton Express are also equipped with bike racks which can accommodate up to two bicycles. Bicycles are not allowed inside the bus on the Highway 17 Express and Dumbarton Express.

VTA Light Rail – All light rail vehicles are equipped with interior bike racks. The maximum number of bicycles allowed inside a light rail vehicle is six. Up to four bicycles can be accommodated in the racks provided, with two additional bicycles allowed to stand on the floor in the center section (turntable area) of the vehicle. All bicycles must be boarded through the center doors of each car, and they are restricted to the designated area in the center section (turntable area) of the vehicle.

Lockers/Bike Racks – Both Sunnyvale Caltrain Stations have lockers and racks for bikes. Call Caltrain at 650-508-6350 for more information.

#### Bicycle Registration

Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety requires all bicycles to be registered. A license can be purchased from any Fire Station between 5-6 p.m. daily. The fee is currently \$6 for a 3-year license.

### DOs



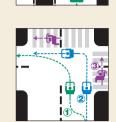


Use hand signals
Hand signals tell others what you intell

Hand signals tell others what you intend to do. Signal as a matter of courtesy and of



Ride in the middle of narrow lanes When the lane is too narrow for a car to pass you safely, ride in the middle of the



Choose the best way to turn left
There are three ways to make a left turn.

1 Signal, look back for oncoming traffic,
then move into the left turn lane. Turn left

when it is clear.

2 Ride to the far side of the intersection, stop, turn, and then ride across the street when the light turns green.

**3** Or as a pedestrian: You can always get off your bike and walk across one or both crosswalks. Yield to pedestrians.





Watch for cars pulling out
Make eye contact with drivers. Assume they
don't see you until you are sure they do.
When the sun is in their eyes, drivers may
not see you.



Keep clear of the door zone
Try to ride more than a door's width away from parked cars. If you have to ride in the door zone, ride very slowly. You have the right to ride in the middle of a travel lane if it is too narrow to share with a car. Watch for cars pulling out.



Be alert to the road around you Keep your eyes roving constantly for cars, people, sand and gravel, grates, etc. Learn to look back over your shoulder without losing your balance or swerving.



Respects pedestrians' rights
Pedestrians on sidewalks and in crosswalks
have the right of way. When entering or
exiting driveways, bicyclists must yield to
pedestrians on the sidewalk. If bicycling on
the sidewalk, ride slowly. Be especially
aware of small children, people with pets,
people with disabilities and their service
animals.



Be Alert – Ride defensively and expect the unexpected. Remember, bicyclists are

Be Equipped – Your bicycle should be in good working order. Be sure to wear a helmet and if desired other protective gear such as a rear-view mirror, reflective

clothing, gloves and sunglasses.

# Always Wear A Helmet

manual apply to bicyclists also.

Be Predictable - Ride so drivers can

see you and predict your movements

Remember that the rules in the driver's

Three out of four bicycling deaths are caused by head injury. Like a seat belt in a car, a helmet can make the difference between life and death in a collision or fall. Quality, comfort and selection have improved greatly in the past few years, and the cost of a helmet is negligible compared to your life or medical bills.

All bicyclists 18 years and younger by law must wear a helmet that meets the ANSI of SNELL or ASTM F-1447 standards when operating a bicycle.

# **Keep Your Bicycle Well Maintained & Adjusted** You can't ride safely on an unsafe bike. Of particular importance are the brakes, tires, and proper tire inflation.

#### Ones Consultation

Carry Gear Safely
It's best to use panniers or a basket attached to your bike.
You may also use a courier bag or a backpack to safely carry items while riding. Never carry items in your hands or hung over your handlebars. Consider a trailer if you have a child or lots of items to transport.



Sunnyvale Police Officer teaches children how to bike and walk safely, during the Columbia Health a Safety Fair



Sunnyvale Director of Public Works Marvin A. Rose, biking to work on Bike to Work Day.



Bike to Work Day "Energizer Station" at Bayshore/NASA Light Rail Station



City of Sunnyvale staff and BPAC members participate in a Bike to Work Day ride





Be seen so you can be avoided
Use a strong headlight and rear reflector
or taillight at night or when visibility is
poor. Wear light-colored clothes with
reflective tape for extra protection.
Reflective leg bands are also effective.

Ride with both hands, ready to brake

unexpected times. In rain, allow three

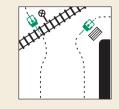
You may need to stop suddenly at

times the normal braking distance.



You may leave a bike lane
When a road hazard or other obstruction

exists in a bike lane, or you anticipate a motorist might turn across your path, you may temporarily merge with caution into the adjacent motor vehicle lane for safety.



Avoid road hazards
Watch out for parallel-slat sewer grates,

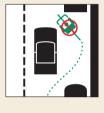
slippery manhole covers, oily pavement, detour signage, sand, gravel and debris. Cross railroad tracks carefully at right angles. For better control as you move across bumps and other hazards, stand up off the seat.





Never ride against traffic Motorists are not looking for bicyclists riding against traffic on the wrong side

riding against traffic on the wrong side of the road.



caution on streets that allow use of the parking shoulder as a motor vehicle lane during peak hours.

Don't weave between parked cars

Motorists may not see you when you try to move into traffic. Use extra



a bicycle passing on the right. At intersections or driveways watch for rightturning vehicles. Also watch for cars coming from the other direction that may be turning left.

In front, or far behind, not beside!

To ensure drivers of large vehicles

(buses, trucks and motor homes) can see you, stay out of their blind spots.

Motorists may not look for nor see

Avoid the "Right-Hook"



Never pass on the right side. Ride far enough behind for the driver to see you, and at least four feet from the sides to avoid falling under a large vehicle.